## Message Text

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DRAFTED BY EUR/WE:EMROWELL:MJK
APPROVED BY EUR - MR. LOWENSTEIN
EUR/NEW:MR. CANNEY (DRAFT)
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O 282332Z JUL 75 ZFF4
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY HELSINKI IMMEDIATE
USDEL SECRETARY IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY LISBON IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE
USMISSION NATO IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW IMMEDIATE

CONFIDENTIAL STATE 177696 TOSEC 080082

**EXDIS** 

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFRO, PO, SOV, UK, FR.

SUBJECT: STAGE III AND PORTUGAL: WARNINGS TO SOVIETS

HELSINKI FOR SONNENFELDT AND HARTMAN

1. ON INSTRUCTION FROM LONDON UK CHIEF OF CHANCERY WILBERFORCE CONSULTED DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY LAINGEN JULY 28 REGARDING POSSIBLE PRIVATE AND PUBLIC WARNINGS TO SOVIETS CONCERNING PORTUGAL. WILBERFORCE SAID WILSON AND GISCARD D'ESTAING HAD AGREED AT THEIR CONFIDENTIAL

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MEETING AT BRUSSELS(PRESUMABLY EC MEETING JULY 17)
THAT EACH WOULD RAISE THIS ISSUE AT HELSINKI. FRENCH
INFORMED UK SATURDAY (JULY 26) THAT GISCARD WILL MAKE POINT
TO BREZHNEV PRIVATELY BUT NOT RPT NOT IN PUBLIC STATEMENTS.

2. IN SEEKING U.S. VIEWS, WILBERFORCE OUTLINED UK THOUGHTS AS FOLLOW: THEY SEEK TO IMPRESS UPON BREZHNEV THAT PORTUGAL FATE WILL INEVITABLY AFFECT WESTERN ATTITUDES ON FUTURE OF DETENTE. BUT WEST MUST AVOID ALLEGATIONS THAT CANNOT BE SUBSTANTIATEDOR THREATS THAT MIGHT NOT BE FULFILLED. THEREFORE WILSON WOULD TELL BREZHNEV THAT: (1) SITUATION IN PORTUGAL IS SIGNIFICANT FACTOR FOR INSTABILITY IN EUROPE; (2) WE IN WESTERN EUROPE HAVE DONE ALL IN OUR POWER TO

TO CORRECT THIS; (3) WHAT WILL RUSSIANS DO NOW?
(4) WIDELY BELIEVED RUSSIANS SUPPORT PORTUGUESE
COMMUNIST PARTY WITH MASSIVE FINANCE; (5) WE LOOK
TO RUSSIANS TO USE THEIR INFLUENCE AGAINST DEVELOPMENTS
IN PORTUGAL THAT WOULD, IF THEY OCCUR, SERIOUSLY DAMAGE
PROSPECTS FOR DETENTE.

- 3. WILSON ALSO THINKING OF DIRECT REFERENCE TO PORTUGAL IN SPEECH AT HELSINKI OR, ALTERNATIVELY, INDIRECT REFERENCES SUPPORTED BY PRESS BRIEFING. AT MOMENT BRITISH LEAN TOWARD DIRECT REFERENCE TO MAKE UNEQUIVOCAL CARDINAL POINT THAT KIND OF SITUATION IN PORTUGAL MUST BE CLEARED UP IF DETENTE IS TO PROSPER OR HAVE REAL MEANING.
- 4. LAINGEN URGED WILBERFORCE TO HAVE UKDEL CONSULT WITH SONNENFELDT AND HARTMAN AT HELSINKI. ALSOREFERRED WILBERFORCE TO QUOTE FROM SECRETARY'S JULY 25 PRESS CONFERENCE. IN RESPONSE TO A DIRECT QUESTION, LAINGEN SAID HE COULD NOT RPT NOT COMMENT ON PRESIDENT S SPEECH REGARDING PORTUGAL BUT THAT, SUBJECT TO CONSULTATION WITH HARTMAN AND SONNENFELDT, HE SAW NO RPT NO HARM IN HAVING WILSON REFER TO PORTUGUESE PROBLEM. FINALLY, LAINGEN POINTED OUT WARNINGS MUST BE CAREFULLY PHRASED IN VIEW OF MURKINESS OF PORTUGUESE SITUATION AND FACT THAT MAOIST AND OTHER EXTREME LEFT RADICALS IN PORTUGAL HOSTILE TO PORTUGUESE COMMUNIST PARTY AND PRESUMABLY NOT UNDER SOVIET INFLUENCE HA;; SPARKED SOME OF CRISES LEADING TO PRESENT CONFIDENTIAL

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SITUATION.

5. FYI. LATE JULY 28 PRESS REPORTS FROM LISBON SAY PORTUGUESE PRESIDENT COSTA GOMES WILL GO TO HELSINKI AFTER ALL. NO NEWS RE OTHER MEMBERS OF PORTUGUESE DELEGATION. THESE LATE REPORTS PRESUMABLY CORRECT EARLIER STORIES THAT COSTA GOMES WOULD NOT GO. END FYI. INGERSOLL

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<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

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SECRETARY INFO LISBON

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